

to sin, at just such a time, fastens its grasp upon us and seems to make a toy of us; it is then that we need to cleave to God.

But what is our encouragement? To be sure it is not from anything in us. Our own righteousness, even to us, is loathsome and filthy rags. Our power fled. Our character blackened by sin, our good resolutions run out like water. We are destitute before God and sink into a sorry sickly life, or we cleave to God, and he by his own power sets our feet upon the rock.

It is in God. Men whose characters are above reproach, so far as we know, constantly turn to God upon the ground of what his character is, and lament of their own.

Joshua's encouragement is upon the ground of what God has done. The Lord has driven out from before you great nations. (Josh. 23: 9) "One man of you hath chased a thousand, for the Lord your God . . . fighteth for you." (Josh. 23: 10.) And speaking for God he says, "I gave you a land wherein thou hadst not labored, and cities which ye built not and ye dwell therein." (Josh. 24: 13) Daniel said, "We do not present our supplications to thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercy." (Dan. 9: 18) An old man who was powerful in prayer said, "There is no praying till you come to a close grip." It is just so too in clinging to God.

Spurgeon said, "The man must conquer the angel at Jabbok's brook who grips him with both hands by a faith that knows its heaven wrought claims." Another English preacher said, "I die resting upon oaths and covenants and blood." The Lord said to Israel when in captivity in Babylon, "Even to hoar hairs will I carry you; I have made and I will hear; yea, I will carry and will deliver." (Isa. 46: 4)

Glenford, Ohio.

A Complete Surrender

Christian.

It is an oft told but instructive story of a red Indian of the forest, who, burdened with a sense of sin, and a consciousness that he had offended the great Spirit, sought to become reconciled to God. To propitiate the favor of heaven he offered his dearest possessions. He laid down his ornaments which were his pride, yet he found no relief to his burdened soul. He placed beside them his blanket, but found no conscious assurance that this gift was accepted, and that he was approved of God. Next he laid down his gun, the choicest of all his possessions, inquiring if God would accept that and accept him. Still there was no peace, no consciousness of divine approval, until at length he added to all the other gifts *himself*, and prayed that God would "Take poor Indian too;" and then peace entered his heart, and he could feel that his offering was accepted, and that he was accepted with it.

The great need of the burdened soul is peace with God, and God will accept no divided allegiance. No man is important

enough to be accepted of the Lord, until he is offered in his entirety. The offering must be a complete, a perfect, an undivided offering. To be accepted of the Lord a man must be wholly given up to him. The surrender must be entire, absolute, eternal; and when all is yielded up then peace and joy and rest come in to fill the soul.

How many there are who think to please the Lord with divided hearts, who imagine that he will accept them while the world has its hold upon them, and while they are going astray in their evil ways; and how much of failure and disappointment, and heartbreak and ruin, comes through this mistaken idea. God would have us wholly his. Let us pray that he will detach us from every earthly hinderance, and unite us to himself in an everlasting covenant, bound with bonds of everlasting love.

O man of earth, struggling in the darkness and longing for the light; wearied of earth and yet not finding rest in God, will you not from this time give yourself wholly to the Lord? Let the past days of doubt, of indecision and uncertainty suffice. For the future let the eye be single, that the whole body be full of light. You are not your own, you are bought with a price, the blood of the Son of God. What can you render to the Lord for all his benefits? You have thought, and prayed, and wept.

"But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here Lord, I give myself away
'Tis all that I can do."

A Prescription for the Blues

"I am not going to stay in this world very long," you are to say to yourself, "and after I have been in heaven for a few hundred years it will not make any difference at all to me whether I was happy on the earth; but it will make a great, great difference whether I loved God and did God's will on earth." Now think about that for ten minutes.

"How many millions there are in the world that would change lots with me, and count themselves supremely happy in the change!" (Ten minutes more on this.)

"Has not God managed everything in my life for the best, when I would let him? Why, of course, he has; every single thing; and he isn't going to begin making mistakes at this late day."

"Christ is here, right here by my side, as truly as he ever stood by the side of toiled Martha or perplexed Thomas. I will reach out my soul. I will touch him."

"A rest is coming. A happy time is coming. Christ is getting ready my home. He may have finished this very day one of the loveliest rooms in it. Maybe the library. Maybe the music room. Maybe the observatory looking out over the most entrancing view. I guess I can stand almost everything, since I am so soon to reach that blessedness."

There! Don't you feel better?—*The Christian Endeavor World.*

The Mission Field

WASHINGTON CITY ECHOES

As I pen these lines my heart swells with gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His mercy in restoring the health of my children. We have been sorely tried in more ways than one during the past three months, but God has wonderfully sustained us and kept us. Bless His holy name! "*He is faithful that promised.*" Our sincere thanks are also tendered to the many dear brethren and sisters who wrote us during our affliction expressing their sympathy and deep concern in our welfare. The Lord bless them all with the riches of His grace!

We had hoped that with the advent of Spring we would have sufficient funds and pledges together to purchase a lot for our prospective church home, but unless there is a great awakening soon we will hardly be able to realize this, and yet it would be such an easy matter to accomplish, very easy, indeed, if the pastors throughout the brotherhood would have a little systematic work done and give all a chance to do something. One offering in each congregation in the brotherhood with what we already have would be sufficient to enable us to buy a lot and that would mean *everything*, because it will be no trouble to secure plenty of means for building if once we have a lot paid for. Will not every pastor in the brotherhood see to it that this is done without delay? We are tired of paying rent and holding meetings in halls and private houses. If you love your brother as much as you profess you will not fail to respond. Indeed, you will not. The Lord have mercy upon any who may begin to make excuse!

Another thing: It seems that the treasury is again empty, so brother Cassel writes me. It is hard for missionaries thus to be hampered. It is humiliating, too. For my part I had resolved never to mention this one thing again, but some of my brethren, including Bro. Cassel, urge me to do it. Possibly the Lord intended me to make another tour among the churches as I had to do last fall. So here is fair warning; all congregations and pastors that are specially desirous of my presence again on this business, please let them keep silent a little longer, if they wish me to put in my appearance to talk on this very inspiring subject! A few congregations that I visited last fall have been responding nobly with monthly offerings, these are wise and evidently not solicitous for a second visit. But I still believe that the Lord will open hearts enough so that I may not be forced away from the mission again to solicit funds. For this I am praying daily. How many will join me in this prayer?

"Bring ye all the tithes into the store house, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Mal. iii. If we really love the Lord we